

CALL TO ORDER CITY COUNCIL:

The Regular City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Leeming led the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present: Councilmembers: Donohue, Kellogg, Ostrander, VanDyke, Whitman, Mayor Pro-Tem Hunsaker, and Mayor Leeming

Excused: None

STAFF:

Daniel Coss, City Administrator; Sarah Stoltzfus, Interim Clerk-Treasurer; Bruce Ferguson, Chief of Police; Brian Goodenough, City Attorney; Paula Willoughby, Finance Director

AUDIENCE:

None

AGENDA:

Motion by Ostrander, seconded by VanDyke, and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the agenda be approved as presented.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Kellogg, seconded by Donohue, carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the minutes from the November 27, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting as presented.**

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Whitman, carried by unanimous vote of the Council **to approve the minutes from the November 27, 2023 Closed Session Meeting as presented.**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Administrator Coss went over the City Administrator's report that was provided to the council in the agenda packet.

CLOSED SESSION:

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Hunsaker and carried by roll call vote of the Council to adjourn to enter into closed session per the Open Meeting Act Article 15.268 Section 8 Sub (d) for negotiations connected with the purchase of real property at 7:42 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Councilmember Donohue	<u> Y </u>	Councilmember Ostrander	<u> Y </u>
Councilmember Hunsaker	<u> Y </u>	Councilmember VanDyke	<u> Y </u>
Councilmember Kellogg	<u> Y </u>	Councilmember Whitman	<u> Y </u>

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Donohue and carried by unanimous vote of the Council to reconvene to the regular meeting at 7:53 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Purchase Agreement for North Scott & West Jefferson Properties

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Donohue, carried by unanimous vote of the Council to move forward with the purchase agreement for the North Scott and West Jefferson properties.

2. 2024 City Council Meeting Schedule

Motion by Ostrander, seconded by VanDyke, carried by unanimous vote of the Council to approve the attached City Council meeting schedule dated December 7, 2023, Calendar Year 2024.

3. Vacation Schedule Amendment

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Donohue, carried by unanimous vote of the Council for approval of amending Section 7: Benefits, C. Vacation of the City of DeWitt Personnel/Policy Manual with the Amended Vacation Table as presented in the Staff Report dated December 7, 2023.

4. Police Department Recruitment Agreement

MCOLES has created a Public Safety Academy Assistance program that allows police departments to sponsor a recruit and send them to a police academy in Michigan. Chief Ferguson has selected a recruit who is interested in going through the Lansing Community College police academy and working on a part-time basis for the City of DeWitt Police Department upon graduation. There will be an agreement outlining the obligations between the city and the recruit.

Motion by Hunsaker, seconded by Whitman and carried by unanimous vote of the Council for Approval of the Academy Sponsorship Recruit Agreement and creation of a non-certified police officer sponsored Academy Recruit position within the City of DeWitt Police Department.

COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS:

City Attorney: Nothing to report

City Clerk-Treasurer: Ms. Stoltzfus attended the MAMC Master Academy last week. It was a very informative conference on changes with Prop. 2. Also, winter taxes have been mailed out.

DARA: They are working on hiring new employees.

Mayor Leeming /DDA: Mayor Leeming reported that the Ox Roast volunteers are making great progress and they are talented individuals. They will begin meeting regularly in January.

DAESA: There have been budget discussions and a push toward more full-time staff, with a full-time chief being a priority.

Planning: Next meeting is December 28th.

Parks: There will be a presentation at the January meeting on new equipment.

Police Chief: He reported that Shop-with-a-Cop went well. He also said that the Christmas Light parade went smoothly, but they are working on barricade solutions for next year so that parade-goers don't try to disobey and pass through areas where they shouldn't be.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by VanDyke, seconded by Whitman, and carried by unanimous vote of the Council that **the meeting is adjourned at 8:42 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sarah Stoltzfus
Interim Clerk-Treasurer

Sue Leeming
Mayor